

**RELIEF FOR FAMISHED  
EUROPE URGENT ISSUE****PRESIDENT DESIRES QUES-  
TION SETTLED EARLY.****Discontent and Resentment  
Would Be Held Back by  
Prompt Alleviation.**

Paris, Dec. 20.—Plans for extending relief to famished Europe, which President Wilson regards as the most pressing question needing settlement, are rapidly maturing in such a way as to secure full co-operation from the allies. The president some time ago indicated in a speech that something should be done promptly to relieve the liberated and neutral regions which suffered so

severely from the war. He now has supplemented this by making known to the allies that he regards the relief measures as of extreme importance both for the stricken populations and also as a means of holding back the wave of discontent and resentment sweeping westward in the train of the bolshevist movement. The relief plans, which have matured since the arrival of Herbert C. Hoover, the food administrator, are understood to have gone before the supreme war council in London and to have been referred to a committee, upon which England, France and Italy are represented. A number of exchanges have been going on with the committee, which is gradually tending toward agreement.

As a great deal of German tonnage is lying idle in German ports, the use of this was contemplated, the passenger ships to be employed in moving American troops homeward, and the bulk of the freighters, augmented

with American and allied freight tonnage, to be devoted to relief work. Because of President Wilson's special interest in the subject, he has made it known he considers it highly desirable that co-operation by all the allied interests be secured at the earliest possible moment, and now it is believed that the entire question will be speedily adjusted.

**TANGLED MASS  
ON HOG ISLAND**

(Continued From Page One.)

International Shipbuilding corporation, was organized as the agency through which the yards and ships actually were to be built. The report tells in detail of the vast work involved in the investigation and recites at length the charges made against the contractors and the answers on which the investigators do not attempt to pass judgment. This is the conclusion as to criminal liability:

"In response to the question submitted by the president, our conclusion is that the facts do not justify criminal process; that no fraud or secret profits on the part of the officials of either the agent or the fleet corporation has been established; that while there were some minor frauds on the pay roll, which have been prosecuted, the laborers, timekeepers and pay-roll supervisors were in the main honest."

**Do Not Minimize Evils.**

Stating conclusions as to the alleged waste and mismanagement, the report proceeds:

"In what we have next to say we do not wish to minimize the boldness of the plan of the agent and the courage and success of the undertaking, but we are not able to find affirmatively that the agent has satisfactorily accounted in the hearings before us for the expenditure of so large a sum of money in the construction of this plant."

**Costs Exceeded Estimates.**

"Waiving all minor questions of controversy, the outstanding fact is that the agent's summer and fall estimates of \$21,000,000 and its Nov. 27 estimate of \$27,000,000 have been so

far exceeded that the probable cost of the yard will be about \$41,000,000 (including \$6,000,000 for recent additions made by order of the fleet corporation). Such a discrepancy must be due to some fundamental miscalculation in the original estimate, to supervening conditions causing enlargement of the plant, to mismanagement in operation, or to a combination of these factors. A discrepancy of such magnitude would seem to call for a clear explanation from the agent, but this has not been furnished. Considerable effort has been made by the agent in the hearings to stultify its own estimates by claiming that they were mere guesses that nobody could rely upon. But the fleet corporation did rely on them; and there is no contemporaneous evidence justifying the agent's present position. The most significant single fact indicating the point of view at Hog Island was the bill for materials, largely lumber, were prepaid (and properly prepaid) to the extent of over \$10,000,000, but no effort was made by the agent until our investigation to prove whether prepaid bills were in fact followed by actual receipt of the material paid for.

**Significant Facts.**

"Another fact of strong significance is, while the contract provided in express terms that the agent should keep a detailed and accurate account and contained very careful provisions defining cost, yet the agent at an early date took the position that since the government paid for everything that went into Hog Island it was unnecessary to comply with this provision. Hence, at no stage of the work since last December could it be determined what unit of plant construction cost."

A report of the naval technical advisers working with the investigators, included in the report, says so far as the data before them shows, the general scope of the Hog Island plant has not been changed very materially since the November estimate of cost, and that the difference between \$27,000,000 and \$55,000,000 cannot be accounted for by expansion subsequent to Nov. 27. It says the November estimate is regarded as insufficient, but after allowing for unfavorable weather, increased cost of labor and the necessity for speed, the cost will be higher than the experts are able to account for.

**Contractors' Contentions.**

The investigators refer to the contractors' claim that the fleet corporation cannot claim the contract was not complied with because all substantial acts were approved by the corporation and because orders for additional ships were given after the charges of mismanagement and extravagance had been made. This, the report says, is regarded as serious but not conclusive.

A bill in equity for an accounting by the agent might be brought, the report says, but "the main question being the responsibility of the expenditures, a board of experts would be a more suitable tribunal, we think, than a court, or a court and jury."

**OBITUARY****LIEUT. F. E. McNUTT**

Pneumonia Claims Greenleaf Officer—Home Was in Washington.

First Lieutenant Frank E. McNutt, of the general department, Camp Greenleaf, died Thursday at Fort Oglethorpe of pneumonia. The body was removed to Chapman's and prepared for burial. Funeral services were held at Chapman's chapel Friday morning at 10. The deceased's home was in Washington, and the body will probably be sent there for burial. Lieut. McNutt's wife has been residing here since he has been at Chickamauga.

**Mrs. Sallie L. Jones.**

Mrs. Sallie L. Jones, wife of the late J. C. Jones, died Friday morning at Pensacola, Fla., where she went two months ago to visit her daughter. The body will arrive in Chattanooga Saturday evening, and the funeral Monday will be in charge of O'Donoghue's. Mr. Jones was engaged in the furniture business here for several years. He passed away in November, 1916. Mrs. Jones was a consistent member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. She was also a member of Olive Rehearsal lodge. Mr. and Mrs. Jones were residents of Chattanooga for many years. She had a wide circle of friends here.

**Funeral of J. H. Clemons.**

J. Herbert Clemons, well-known young man, who died Thursday afternoon at the home of his sister, Mrs. H. D. Gregory, 1205 Chamberlain street, was laid to rest in Forest Hills cemetery following funeral services from Chapman's chapel at 3 Friday afternoon. Dr. Claude E. Hill was the officiating minister. The pallbearers were J. W. V. George D. McIsaac, J. F. Ansel, J. F. Lessig, W. J. Trout and C. L. Tomlinson. The deceased was a member of the well-known business firm of Clemons Bros. He was a member of the First Christian church, was genial, affable and popular among a wide circle of friends. He returned a short time ago from Mexico, where he spent three months in the hope that his health would be benefited.

**Mrs. Young at Rest.**

Funeral services over the body of Mrs. Alma Young, who died Wednesday night, were held from the residence, 1612 East Seventeenth street, Friday morning at 10. Rev. Daly officiated. The interment followed at Rock Springs, Georgia.

**Charles T. Wilcoxson.**

The funeral of Charles T. Wilcoxson, who died Wednesday night at the home of his sister, Mrs. Theodore G. Lieb, 219 Cherry street, was held from Wann's chapel Friday morning at 10. Rev. C. E. Sprague officiated. Forest Hills cemetery was the place of interment.

**George Neal.**

Lyerly, Ga., Dec. 20.—(Special.)—Funeral services over the body of George Neal, who died Sunday night at his home in Menlo, were held in Menlo Wednesday, and interment was at Chelsea. Mr. Neal was a prominent citizen of this county and had many relatives. He is survived by his mother, two brothers, J. A. and J. D. Neal, of Rossville; two sisters, Mrs. E. L. Lawrence, of Oklahoma City, and Mrs. L. E. Reid, of Dyers, Tenn.

**Clarence Hamilton.**

Lyerly, Ga., Dec. 20.—(Special.)—Clarence Hamilton, one of this county's most prominent young men, son of Charles P. Hamilton, of Sublimia, died at Kansas City, Mo., last week, where he was attending a mechanical school preparatory to entering the service of the United States. Young Hamilton left for Kansas City only ten days ago and was soon stricken with illness, which proved fatal. Young Hamilton was a grandson of Sam Hamilton and a great-grandson of Joe Hamilton, one of the first settlers and one of the most prominent families in the early days of this part of Georgia. His remains reached Summerville this week and the funeral services were conducted from the Sublimia Methodist church, of which he was a member. Rev. Legg officiated. The deceased is survived by his parents; his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Hamilton; one sister, Miss Bonnie, and two brothers, Joe and Kelly Hamilton, of this county.

**Mrs. Ella M. Secret.**

Funeral services over the body of Mrs. Ella M. Secret, aged 45 years, who died Thursday morning in a local sanitarium, after a short illness, will be held from King Memorial church, East Chattanooga, Sunday afternoon at 2. The interment will follow in Greenwood cemetery. Pallbearers are announced as John Burns, Squire C. Z. Taylor, A. L. Ellis, J. N. Roberts, W. L. Sims and James Brown. The pallbearers are requested to meet at the residence, 260 Curtis street, at 1:30. Surviving the deceased are her husband, J. H. Secret; a son, Doyle E. Wilson; her father, N. P. Frazier, of Ebenauville; six brothers, Will H. and S. D. Frazier, of Chattanooga; T. Z. Frazier, of Liberty; Mr. J. W. Frazier, of Tampa; and J. O. Frazier, of New Orleans, and John G. Frazier, of New Orleans.

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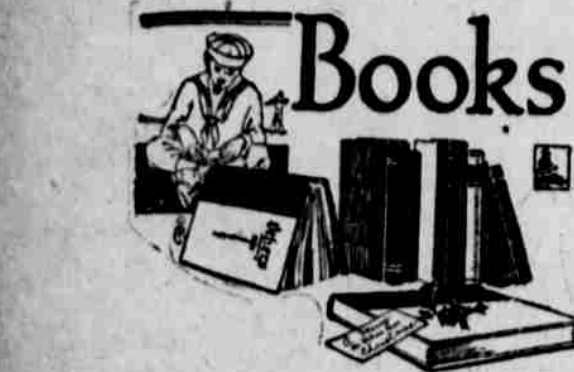
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